

REMARKS

Claims 1-8 were pending. Claims 9-10 have been added, and claims 1-8 have been amended to further clarify the nature of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 1-10 remain pending subsequent entry of the present amendment. Amendments to the claims are supported by the prior claims, and at least FIGs. 3-6 and the accompanying description.

In the present Office Action, claims 1-8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,969,748 (hereinafter "Casement"), in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,067,564 (hereinafter "Urakoshi"). Applicant submits each of the pending claims recite features neither taught nor suggested by the cited art, either singly or in combination.

As noted above, Applicant has amended the claims to further clarify the nature of the presently claimed invention. Claim 1 as amended recites a system comprising:

“an input device for entering a PIN code of a user;
a security manager configured to:
 receive a request for user authentication from the application;
 compare a received PIN code of the user with a registered PIN code, in
 response to said request;
 supply information to the application about PIN code entering key-
 pressing operations by the user, wherein the entered PIN code is not
 supplied to the application; and
 give authorization to run said application if the PIN code of the user
 matches the registered PIN code;
wherein the application is configured to present a PIN entry field, wherein crypted
information corresponding to said information about PIN code entering
key-pressing operations received from the security manager is displayed in
the PIN entry field.”

As seen in claim 1, the application presents the PIN entry field. The security manager then supplies information to the application about PIN code entering key-pressing operations by the user, but does not supply the application with the PIN code itself. Feedback concerning the key-pressing operations is provided by the application by displaying crypted information corresponding to said information about PIN code entering key-pressing operations received from the security manager.

In contrast to the claimed invention, Casement generally discloses a parental control menu(s) (FIGs. 2A-2H) for use in a television system. Included in the Casement disclosure is a general description concerning an authorization procedure including password entry (e.g., FIG. 6 as cited in the Office Action). However, nothing in this disclosure of Casement teaches or suggests the particular features as recited in claim 1. Rather, Casement may be seen to generally correspond to a prior art approach as described on pages 2-3 of the present application. Urakoshi merely states that when passwords are input, they are not displayed on the screen (Urakoshi, col. 4, lines 39-41). Accordingly, not all of the features of claim 1 are disclosed by the cited art, and claim 1 is patentably distinguished from the cited art. As each of independent claim 4 and 9 include features similar to that of claim 1, each of claims 4 and 9 are believed patentable for similar reasons.

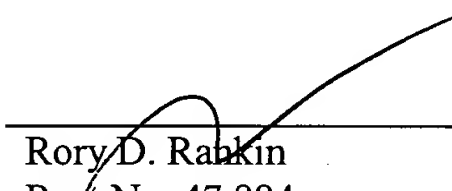
Applicant believes the application to be in condition for allowance. However, should the examiner believe issues remain which would prevent the present application from proceeding to allowance, the below signed representative requests a telephone interview to facilitate a more speedy resolution.

CONCLUSION

Applicant submits the application is in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is requested.

If any fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge said fees to Meyertons, Hood, Kivlin, Kowert, & Goetzel, P.C. Deposit Account No. 501505/5266-09100/RDR.

Respectfully submitted,



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